

Before the State of South Carolina
Department of Insurance

In the matter of:)	Default Order Revoking
)	Resident Insurance Agent's License
Woodrow W. Morris, Jr.)	
)	
115 Dehay Street)	File Number 1998244-025-001
Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29461.)	100687
_____)	

This matter comes before me pursuant to a Letter of Allegation and Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing served, as required within S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-170 (Supp. 1998), by the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance upon Woodrow W. Morris, Jr., a licensed South Carolina resident insurance agent, by both certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail.

By that letter, Morris was informed of his right to request a public hearing upon the allegations of impropriety contained within the letter against him. Further, he was warned that his failure to make a timely, written request would result in my summary revocation of his license to do business as a resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina. Despite that warning, as of January 11, 2000, Morris had neither timely answered nor requested a public hearing. On that day, therefore, counsel for the Department filed an Affidavit of Default, and the entire matter was submitted directly to me for my summary decision based solely on the record.

The letter alleged, and I now find as fact, that while licensed to do business as a resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina for Liberty Life Insurance Company, Morris replaced a consumer's United American Insurance Company policy without the consumer's knowledge or consent. Moreover, Liberty Life has alleged that Morris wrote at least four policies with that insurer that were not applied for by the insureds. These acts, as alleged, are a direct violation of S.C. Code Ann. § 38-43-130 (Supp. 1998). That Code section provides that "[t]he director or his designee may revoke or suspend an agent's license after ten day's notice...when it appears that an agent...has willfully deceived or dealt unjustly with the citizens of this State."

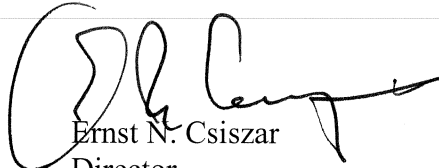
In accordance with my findings of fact, and considering Morris's complete refusal to avail himself of his opportunity to be heard, I now conclude, as a matter of law, that he willfully deceived and dealt unjustly with the citizens of South Carolina, thereby violating S.C. Code Ann. § 38-43-130 (Supp. 1998), and that his license should be revoked.

This administrative disciplinary order is a public record subject to the disclosure requirements of the State of South Carolina's *Freedom of Information Act*, S.C. Code Ann. §§ 30-4-10, *et seq.* (1991 and Supp. 1998). Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit or to deprive any person of any private right of action under

the law. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit, in any manner, the criminal jurisdiction of any law enforcement or judicial officer. Nothing contained within this administrative disciplinary order should be construed to limit the statutory duty, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-110 (4) (Supp. 1998), of the Director of Insurance, exercised either directly or through the Department of Insurance, to "report to the Attorney General or other appropriate law enforcement officials criminal violations of the law relative to the business of insurance or the provisions of this title which he considers necessary to report."

It is therefore ordered that Morris's license to transact business as a resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina be, and is hereby, revoked, and that no license, issued through the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance is to be issued to him.

It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be transmitted to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners for distribution to its current member states and to each insurer for which Morris is currently licensed, through the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance, as a resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina.



Ernst N. Csiszar
Director

January 20, 2000 at
Columbia, South Carolina

Before the State of South Carolina
Department of Insurance

In the matter of:

Woodrow W. Morris, Jr.

115 Dehay Street

Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29461.

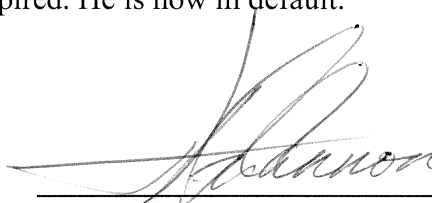
File Number 1998244-025-001

Affidavit of Default

Personally appeared before me T. Douglas Concannon, who, being duly sworn, stated that at all times relevant to this Affidavit of Default he was an attorney representing the State of South Carolina Department of Insurance in this administrative action. He further stated the following:

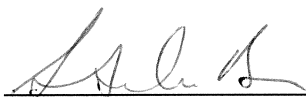
Woodrow W. Morris, Jr. was served notice by a letter of allegation and notice of opportunity for a public hearing that the Department would request that his license to act as a resident insurance agent within the State of South Carolina be summarily revoked by the Director of Insurance for the State of South Carolina in ten days. That notice was served, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 38-3-170 (Supp. 1998) by "depositing it in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the last known address of the person and registered with the return receipt requested." Further, by that letter, Morris was also served notice of his opportunity, within ten days, to request a public hearing.

Service of the Notice was effected by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail, on or about November 23, 1999. Morris has made no response or request for a public hearing. The time in which to do so has expired. He is now in default.



T. Douglas Concannon
Associate General Counsel

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 11th day of January, 2000.



Steven R. DuBois, Notary Public
My Commission Expires 05/10/09

South Carolina Department of Insurance
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Columbia, South Carolina 29202
(803) 737-6132